

## Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 L-01 INR-05 PA-01 /031 W

----- 029758

R 130805Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3586

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU

CIA WASHDC

S E C R E T SAIGON 2794

LIMDIS

EA PASS TO AMBASSADOR MARTIN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PROP VS

SUBJECT: BIG SQUIRT

REF: A. USIA 26737; B. USIA 26955; C. SAIGON 15622;  
D. SECDEF 210045Z DEC 74

1. REFTELS A, B AND C IN DECEMBER 1974 STATED AND REITERATED  
VOA PLANS TO TERMINATE NORTH VIETNAM MEDIUM WAVE SERVICE FROM THE  
VOA HUE TRANSMITTER (BIG SQUIRT) ON DECEMBER 31, 1974. ALSO  
CITED WAS OSA INTEREST IN USING THIS FACILITY FOR CHANNEL 11 AS  
WELL AS CONSENSUS OF SAIGON MISSION AGENCIES THAT THIS WOULD  
BE BEST USE FOR SITE AFTER VOA STANDDOWN (REF B, PARA 3).

2. ON DECEMBER 26, WITH TERMINATION DATE FAST APPROACHING AND NO  
FINAL DECISION REACHED RE TURNOVER, USIS SAIGON AND OSA HELD  
CONSULTATIONS AND CONCLUDED, ON WEIGHT OF EXISTING EVIDENCE,  
THAT TURNOVER TO OSA WAS IMMINENT. AGREEMENT WAS THEREFORE MADE  
TO TURN OVER FACILITY TO OSA CONTRACTOR, C.E.D. SERVICES, FOR  
CARETAKING UPON VOA'S DECEMBER 31 DEPARTURE, A STEP CONCURRED IN  
BY DAO SAIGON, WHICH OWNS THE TRANSMITTER.

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3. PER REF D, THE STANDDOWN OF VOA BROADCASTS WAS ACCOMPLISHED

ON DECEMBER 31 AS SCHEDULED. THE OSA CONTRACTOR ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR BIG SQUIRT SITE ON THAT DATE, AND COSTS OF CARETAKER SERVICE AND REFURBISHING GENERATORS (SEE USIA 15419, 16 JULY 1974) WERE PASSED TO OSA.

4. SINCE ASSUMING CONTROL OF BIG SQUIRT FACILITY, OSA HAS BEEN MARKING TIME, AWAITING NOTIFICATION OF COMPLETION OF LEGAL PAPERWORK BY DOD IN WASHINGTON FOR TRANSFER OF TITLE TO OSA. MEANWHILE, SECURITY LIGHTING, MAINTENANCE AND CARETAKER CHORES PERFORMED BY CONTRACTOR ARE COSTING OSA FUNDS.

5. MISSION WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATIVE OF ANY STEPS WHICH CAN BE TAKEN EITHER TO ACCELERATE TRANSFER PROCESS OR TO PERMIT OSA BEGIN USE OF FACILITY PENDING COMPLETION OF TRANSFER, UNDER ARRANGEMENTS SIMILAR TO THOSE IN EFFECT WHEN VOA USED THE SITE.  
LEHMANN

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRANSMITTERS, RADIO BROADCASTING  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Reference:** 75 USIA 26737, 75 USIA 26955, 75 SAIGON 15622  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BIG SQUIRT  
**TAGS:** PROP, VS, VOA  
**To:** STATE  
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